隠しごとはなんですか
What is your secret?
Part 2

MOTOKI!
SO YOU CAME!
.....
...IT'S SENPAI.
NOTHING HAS CHANGED ABOUT HIM.
WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY MEMORY DISORDER...
MOTOKI-KUN.

SORRY FOR CALLING YOU ON SHORT NOTICE.
YOU WERE AT UNI, WEREN'T YOU?
KASUKABE-SAN.
IT'S OKAY...
WHAT
.....
SHOULD I SAY IN THIS SITUATION...

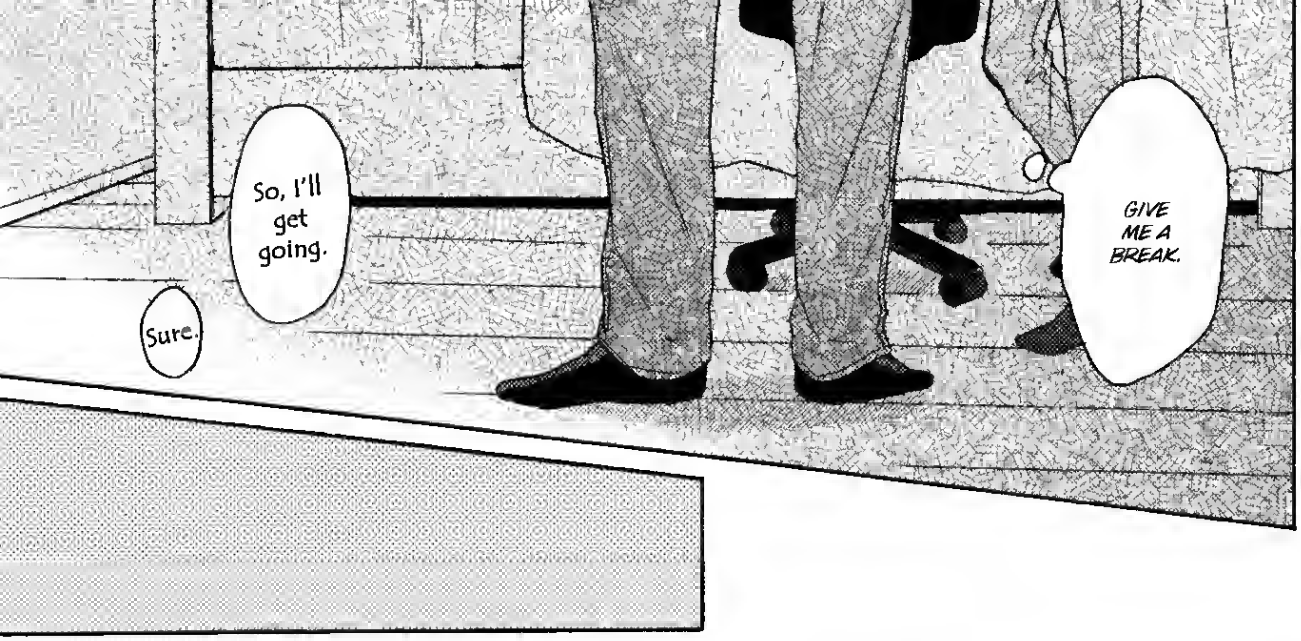
MOTOKI, SO YOU'RE REALLY A COLLEGE STUDENT NOW, HUH~
I FEEL LIKE URASHIMA TAROU*
DID YOU CUT YOUR HAIR? DID YOU GET TALLER?
.....
T/N: RIP VAN WINKLE FEELING OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT

...MOTOKI?
WHAT IS GOING ON...
MOTOKI-KUN HEARD FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT YOU GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT AND WAS HOSPITAL-IZED.
SO YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN A LOT TO HIM.

HE WASN'T ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU WHILE YOU WERE ASLEEP AT THE HOSPITAL,
SO MOTOKI-KUN WAS WORRYING ABOUT YOU.
AND YOUR THREE YEARS' WORTH OF MEMORIES HAVE FLOWN AWAY AT THAT.
AHH
SO IT'S A SET-UP LIKE THAT...
I SEE. YOU'RE RIGHT...
AH, FROM WHERE SHOULD I START TELLING YOU...
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, MOTOKI.
IT'S LIKE...
I'M IN A WORLD THAT I'M COMPLETELY DISASSOCI-ATED WITH.
.....
YEAH...

I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY.
IT LOOKS LIKE MY PHONE GOT CAUGHT UP IN THE ACCIDENT TOO.
AND THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY LEFT HERE CONTAINED ONLY THE NUMBER AT TSUYOSHI'S.
It was of use in the end, wasn't it?
I guess
MY INJURIES WERE LIGHT, SO THERE'S BARELY ANYTHING NOW.
I ONLY HIT MY HEAD A BIT AND MY MEMORIES FLEW AWAY IN A STROKE OF BAD LUCK...
THE DOCTOR ALSO SAID THAT IT COULD BE TEMPO-RARY...
"ONLY", YOU SAY....
JUST HOW OPTIMISTIC ARE YOU...
YOU THINK SO? ER...
WELL, THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT THINGS PAST, IS HOW I THINK.
....ISN'T THIS STRANGE?
WHY...

...RIGHT NOW,
IF MOTOKI IS BY MY SIDE, THEN EVERY-THING'S ALRIGHT.
WHY...
I'M ALRIGHT WITH IT.
ARE YOU SMILING WITH THAT FACE?
IF I FORGOT SOMETHING THAT I SHOULDN'T HAVE, YOU SHOULD TELL ME ABOUT IT.
.....
WHY HAVEN'T YOU CHANGED?
I'M THE ONLY ONE MOVING ON.
...WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?


So, I'll get going.
Sure.
GIVE ME A BREAK.

HEY.
DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT ME FROM TSUYOSHI?
...NO.
JUST THAT YOU DON'T HAVE MEMORIES OF THREE YEARS...

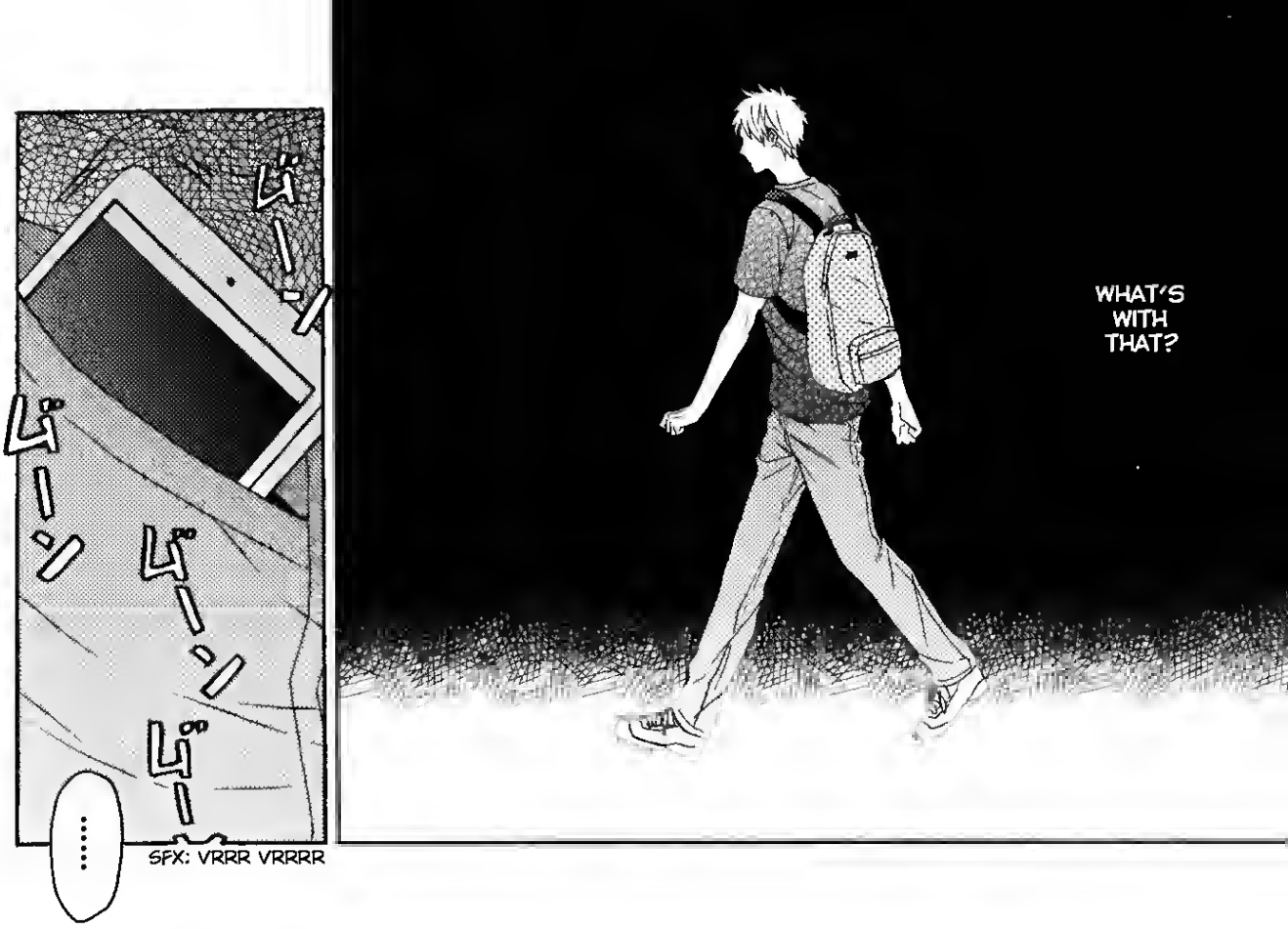
ERR... THAT I GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT, OR THAT YOU WEREN'T THE FIRST ONE I CONTACTED...
FOR WHAT?
I SEE... ARE YOU MAD?

...I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM THE DOCTOR.
CAN YOU REMEMBER IT?
NO...
...WAS IT A ROAD ACCIDENT?
MOTOKI, YOU KNOW, I....
WAS THAT...
ISN'T IT WEIRD? EVEN THOUGH WE'VE BEEN GOING OUT ALL THIS TIME...
I'M REALLY HAPPY THAT I GOT TO MEET YOU TODAY.
SOMEHOW I HAVE A FEELING THAT IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME.
SO HE WON'T TELL ME ABOUT ANYTHING, JUST LIKE THAT...
...I KNEW IT.

...N'T HAVE....
EH?
I KNEW IT, I SHOULDN'T HAVE COME.
RYOUJI-SENPAI, YOU TOLD ME TO BREAK UP WITH YOU THREE YEARS AGO.
I WASN'T ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU, AND IT ENDED LIKE THAT.
I WENT AND SAID IT.
EVEN THOUGH KASU-KABE-SAN TOLD ME TO TALK IT OUT...

RIGHT NOW, I...
I DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING. I WASN'T INFORMED OF ANYTHING.
SENPAI SUDDENLY DISSAP-PEARED.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON ANYMORE.
WITH WHAT KIND OF FACE AM I SAYING THESE THINGS?
WHERE YOU LIVED, OR WHAT YOU WERE DOING...
...THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS WANTED TO JUST FORGET ABOUT EVERYTHING.
I DIDN'T KNOW A SINGLE THING.
WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE RIGHT NOW, WE CAN'T START OVER LIKE THIS.
MY EMOTIONS ARE A SCRAMBLED MESS.

SO WE BROKE UP.
I SEE...
WHAT... SO IT'S LIKE THAT.
TSUYOSHI SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME SO.
YES.
.....
I...
MUST HAVE HAD A LOT OF THINGS I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU ABOUT...


ブーン
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……
SFX: VRRR VRRRR
WHAT'S WITH THAT?

…MO-TOKI-KUN.
KASU-KABE-SAN.
THANK YOU FOR COMING.

I LIED TO YOU.
SINCE RYOUJI DISAPPEARED, I HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HIM SEVERAL TIMES SINCE THEN.
...WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
I WANT TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING, MOTOKI-KUN.
I SEE...
I HAD A FEELING THAT THAT WAS THE CASE.
... SOMEHOW,
KASU-KABE-SAN.
THE CONTENTS OF THEM WERE MOSTLY ABOUT HOW YOU WERE DOING THOUGH...
HE SAID THAT HE WON'T CALL BY HIS PHONE SO HE CALLED USING LANDLINE.
IF THE PERSON IN QUESTION WON'T SAY ANYTHING,
THEN THERE'S NO MEANING TO IT.
BUT,
IT WAS ALL CALLS FROM AN UNKNOWN NUMBER, SO...
I WASN'T ABLE TO CONTACT HIM FROM MY SIDE.

IT'S ALRIGHT ALREADY.
I PROBABLY WON'T MEET WITH SENPAI ANYMORE.
...WHEN HE SENT THAT BREAK-UP MAIL, I THINK IT WAS ALREADY OVER FROM THAT MOMENT.
.....
WHY DIDN T YOU TELL RYOUJI-SENPAI
THAT WE ALREADY BROKE UP?
...I DIDN'T WANT
TO MAKE RYOUJI FEEL SOME-THING PAINFUL.
I THOUGHT THAT MAYBE YOU COULD FIX THINGS UP AND TRY ONE MORE TIME.
I WAS JILTED, YOU KNOW.
SENPAI, AND KASU-KABE-SAN TOO... YOU ARE SO SELFISH.
...BUT STILL,
JUST ONE MORE TIME, PLEASE CONSIDER IT.
RYOUJI IS...

.....
DISGUST-
ING...

SOMEONE HAD TO CANCEL SO WE'RE SHORT ON PEOPLE~
WON'T YOU COME AND GET DRINKS WITH MY CIRCLE TODAY?
MOTOKI!
LET ME THINK...
ピロロロ
UGH
I'M AN OUTSIDER THOUGH...
THERE ARE QUITE A LOT OF GIRLS TOO. YOU'RE FREE RIGHT NOW, RIGHT?
THERE ARE ALWAYS SOME OLD BOYS* MIXED IN SO NOBODY WILL NOTICE!
T/N: A FORMER STUDENT IN A SCHOOL, COLLEGE OR UNI
SFX RINGING
INCOMING
KASUKABE TSUYOSHI
プルルル
YES.
プルルルル
.....

I CONTACTED HIM EARLIER, AND IT SEEMS HE'S BY XX COAST.
UH... IT SEEMED LIKE HE WOULD THROW HIMSELF OFF...
AH, MOTOKI-KUN!!
EH?
UM, I'M SORRY, BUT PLEASE DON'T...
IT'S TROUBLE! RYOUJI...
I'M ALSO HEADING THERE RIGHT NOW, BUT WON'T YOU COME TOO, MOTOKI-KUN?
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...
"IF I WON'T SEE MOTOKI AGAIN, THEN LIVING ON HAS NO MEANING", OR SO RYOUJI...
ANY-WAYS,
WON'T IT BE ALRIGHT IF YOU GO, KASUKABE-SAN? I'M ALREADY...
WHAT DO YOU EVEN MEAN BY THAT?
WHAT THE HELL?
GIVE ME A BREAK ALREADY!
Motoki- So? can you go?
I have plans.
Eh... ok
WHA...
SFX: BEEP BEEP BEEP
IT'S NO GOOD IF IT ISN'T YOU. WELL THEN. I LEAVE IT TO YOU.
EH
WAI-
.....
SFX: HANG UP

SHIT.
"IF HE WON'T SEE ME"... ISN'T THAT JUST WEIRD?
I WAS THE ONE HE PUSHED AWAY.
THAT'S WHY I ALREADY THOUGHT THAT IT WAS IM-POSSI-BLE...
AND THEN HE JUST TALKS ABOUT DYING...
I'M JUST GOING TO REMAIN IN THE DARK, AREN'T I?
EVEN IF I GO, SENPAI WOULD JUST SMILE AMBIGU-OUSLY AGAIN.
...WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO AND DIE...?
.....
AH, GEEZ.
IT PISSES ME OFF.
I DIDN'T HAVE TO GET ON A TAXI, DID I?

kh.
splash
crash
tumble
SENPAI!
I SHOULD BE THE ONE ASKING "WHY"!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
MOTOKI?! WHY ARE YOU...
MO...
SFX: SPLISH SPLASH

I HEARD ABOUT IT FROM KASU-KABE-SAN!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, TALKING ABOUT DYING?!
EH...
DYING?
TRY PUTTING YOURSELF IN THE SHOES OF THE PEOPLE YOU'LL LEAVE BEHIND.
WHAT WILL I DO?
WAIT A MINUTE... WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?
OF COURSE,
JUST RECENTLY I SAID ALL OF THOSE THINGS, BUT...
EH?
I WAS CALLED OUT HERE BY TSUYOSHI AND...
...EH?
WEREN'T YOU GOING TO DO SUICIDE BY DROWN-ING...
NO
LOOKING AT THE SEA MADE ME WANT TO GO IN, EVEN IF IT WAS JUST MY FEET...
I WON'T DO SUCH A THING AS SUICIDE!
??
.....

YOU DON'T WANT TO MEET WITH ME AGAIN, RIGHT?
I'LL TELL TSUYOSHI THAT, SO...
SORRY FOR GETTING YOU CAUGHT UP IN THIS.
...THANK YOU FOR COMING HERE.
.....
SORRY... HAVING YOU GO ALL THE WAY HERE...
.....
I MUST BE...
SENPAI.
BAD AT GIVING UP, HUH...

I'M SURE THAT THIS PERSON IS, TOO...
...AREN'T YOU ALREADY DISAPP-OINTED IN ME?
I'M FULL OF THINGS I DON'T KNOW...
ABOUT YOU SENPAI ...
BEFORE, YOU TOLD ME YOU HAD SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T TELL ME, DIDN'T YOU?
PLEASE TELL ME ABOUT IT. I...
I WONDER IF I'M JUST TENACIOUS...
EVEN THOUGH I AM THIS WEAK...
...WON'T GO HOME UNTIL I HEAR ABOUT IT.
.....

...IT'S GOING TO BE A BIT OF A LONG STORY...
.....
SINCE I ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL, TSUYOSHI INVITED ME TO WORK PART-TIME AT THAT SHOP.
I ALWAYS LIKED THAT KIND OF THING, FROM WAY BACK.
AND THEN...
FROM SOMETIME LATER, A REGULAR STARTED TO SOMEHOW STALK ME.
...IT GRADUALLY ESCALATED, SO I REPORTED IT TO THE MANAGER, BUT...
THAT WAS BEFORE YOU WORKED THERE PART-TIME, MOTOKI.
...THE FIRST TIME, I ACTUALLY FACED HIM ON, SO...
I WAS ALSO BEING FOOLISH THOUGH.

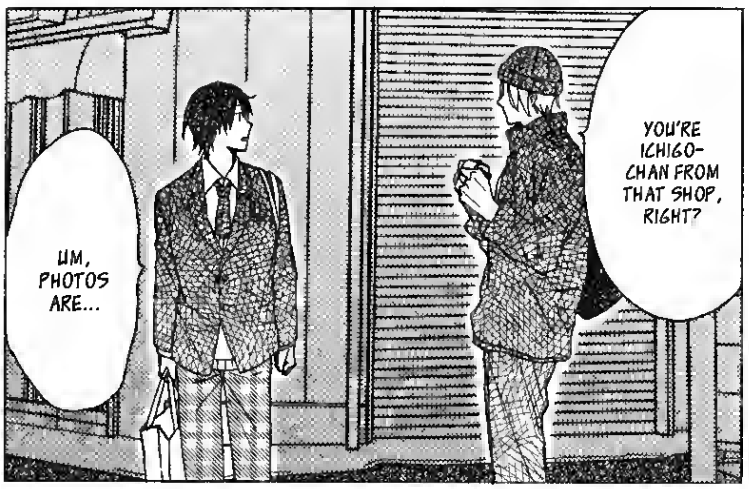
I DIDN'T TELL YOU, SINCE I DIDN'T WANT TO MAKE YOU WORRY.
ISN'T IT A PAIN TO HAVE A LOVER WITH A STALKER?
FROM THEN WE STARTED GOING OUT. SO FOR A WHILE NOTHING HAPPENED.
I DECIDED ON MY JOB AND QUIT PART-TIME, SO
I GOT FOLLOWED AROUND BY THE SAME PERSON AGAIN.
DID YOU THINK OF ME AS SUCH A HEARTLESS PERSON?
THAT'S NOT IT, BUT...
I ONLY WANTED TO SHOW YOU MY GOOD SIDES...
SO...
.....
...YOU DIDN'T TELL ME ABOUT ANY OF THIS, DID YOU?
YEP.

AND THEN I WOKE UP IN THE HOSPITAL. AFTER THAT WAS THE STORY YOU HEARD FROM A FEW DAYS AGO.
THE ACCIDENT... IT WAS A SCUFFLE, IT SEEMED.
THE OTHER PERSON WHO WAS IN THE PHOTO WAS MY STALKER, NO MATTER HOW I LOOKED AT IT.
THOUGH I DON'T REMEMBER ANY-THING...
EVEN THOUGH 3 YEARS HAVE PASSED,
BEING TOLD THAT I HAVE A MEMORY DISORDER AND STUFF REALLY DON'T MAKE SENSE TO ME.
I WAS REALLY FRANTIC.
...I THINK THAT'S ABOUT IT FOR NOW; EVERYTHING THAT I WANTED TO SAY.
IF YOU ASK TSUYOSHI, MAYBE YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT IT.
...I'VE BEEN ASKING HIM FOR ADVICE FOR YEARS.
...WHY ARE YOU..

TALKING ABOUT IT WITH SUCH A STRAIGHT FACE?
ISN'T THERE SOMETHING MORE TO THAT...?
.....
EVEN IF TIME PASSES... I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NICE IF THINGS WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED.
HONE-STLY, I'M SAD.
BUT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
PRACTICALLY, TSUYOSHI WAS MY FRIEND, AND THAT NEVER CHANGED, AND MOTOKI, TOO, YOU WOULD COME RUNNING TO MY SIDE,
BUT I WAS WRONG.
THAT'S RIGHT.
I MET YOU AFTER SO LONG, BUT YOU ACTED LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED.
BUT IT'S ALREADY IN THE PAST NOW.

I WON'T ACT AS IF IT NEVER HAPPENED.
THAT'S WHY, SENPAI, YOU'RE FINE THE WAY YOU ARE.
THAT'S WHY, EVEN THOUGH THREE YEARS HAVE PASSED, I STILL CAME TO SEE YOU...
IF WE EVER MET AGAIN,
I DIDN'T WANT TO GIVE UP ON YOU EITHER!
I THOUGHT THAT SOMETHING COULD HAVE CHANGED.
BUT SOMEWHERE IN MY HEART, I ALSO WANTED THAT CHANGE TO HAVE HAPPENED...
I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY, MOTOKI...



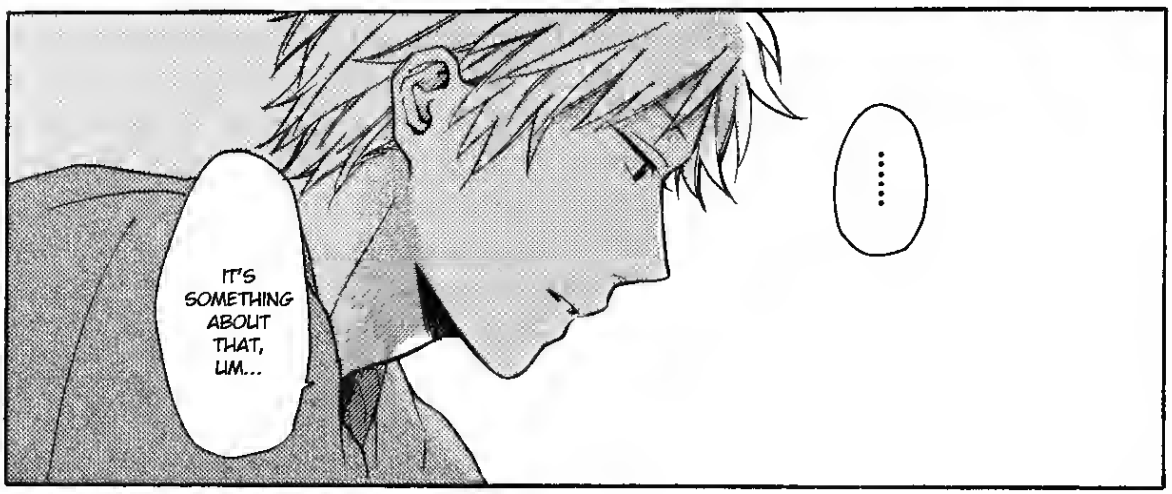
DOUBTING, AND WISHING...

HONESTLY, I JUST WANTED IT ALL TO END ALREADY.

...
REALLY.
EH?
YEAH. I CAN'T STAY UNEMPLOYED FOR-EVER, AND TSUYOSHI IS THERE SO I CAN HAVE A PEACE OF MIND.
THERE'S ALSO THE WEEKLY VISIT TO THE HOSPITAL.
.....
YOU'RE GOING BACK TO THAT SHOP AGAIN?

I'M GLAD...
WHAT? I'M TOO CUTE THAT YOU CAN'T LET OTHER GUYS SEE ME?
No, not really.
that goes beyond their age restrictions
I'LL BE WORKING IN THE BAR AT NIGHT, SO I'LL BE WEARING THE USUAL BARTENDER CLOTHES.
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE ALREADY AT A RIPE AGE, YOU'RE GOING TO COSPLAY WHILE WORKING?
that's quite...
Is that it?

WELL, IT'S JUST MY OUTLET FOR INCOME RIGHT NOW,
BUT MOTOKI'S JOB HAS BEEN DECIDED TOO,
SO SHOULD WE CELEBRATE FOR IT ONCE?


IT'S SOMETHING ABOUT THAT, UM...
.....

IT'S NOT THAT SPACIOUS OF A ROOM, BUT...
THIS.
PERHAPS, THERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING THAT GETS SQUEEZED INSIDE.
.....
UH...
THAT IS...
GRADUALLY DISPERS-ING WITH TIME... AND I'M...
BY YOUR SIDE, WAITING...

SWAYING,

DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT OUR FUTURE FROM NOW ON?
SURE.
THANK YOU.
SWAYING.
What is your secret? Part 2 END

T/N: Thank you so much for reading!! This is the last chapter!
I still think a lot of things were left in the dark about this story,
but it was all cute in the end!
I'll be doing the extra chapter later ~
I'll talk about more stuff on my wordpress,
so please check it out if you'd like! (username below)

Dame na Yatsu Hodo Kawaii
Chapter 5 (Last Chapter)

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